

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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66

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

/072 W

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R 081530Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0272

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11507

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV PFOR GW

SUBJECT: FRG FOREIGN OFFICE AND EMBASSY PERSONNEL
SHIFTS

1. FOREIGN OFFICE POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL TOLD ME ON JULY 7 THAT FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER HAD ASKED HIM TO STAY ON AS POLITICAL DIRECTOR THROUGH THE FRG ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER. VAN WELL ALSO TOLD ME THAT STATE SECRETARY GEHLHOFF (WHO HAS BEEN RECUPERATING FROM WHAT WE UNDERSTAND IS A HEART ATTACK HE SUFFERED EARLIER THIS YEAR) WILL BE RETURNING TO WORK THE LAST WEEK OF JULY, WHEN BOTH VAN WELL AND STATE SECRETARY HERMES (WHO HAD ASSUMED GEHLHOFF'S RESPONSIBILITIES DURING THE ILLNESS) WOULD BE GOING ON THEIR SUMMER LEAVES.

2. COMMENT. IT APPEARS AS IF FURTHER HIGH LEVEL CHANGES IN THE FONOFF AND MAJOR EMBASSIES WILL COME ONLY AFTER THE OCTOBER ELECTIONS. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT GEHLHOFF TURNED DOWN PARIS. HIS RETURN TO THE FONOFF STYMIES HIGH LEVEL CHANGES THERE FOR THE MOMENT.

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TO RECAPITULATE: NATO, PARIS, PEKING AND TOKYO HAVE

BEEN FILLED BY PAULS (FROM PEKING), HERBST (FROM GENEVA),
WICKERT (FROM BUCHAREST) AND RUETE (FROM WARSAW)
RESPECTIVELY. REPORTEDLY UP FOR CHANGE: LONDON, MOSCOW,
AND NOW GENEVA, WARSAW AND BUCHAREST. ALSO, THE PLANS
OF STATE MINISTERS MOERSCH AND WISCHNEWSKI TO
LEAVE THE FONOFF REMAIN UNCHANGED. VAN WELL'S FUTURE
AFTER THE ELECTIONS APPEARS TO BE LINKED WITH THE
CHANGES EXPECTED AT THAT TIME.
HILLENBRAND

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